TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

A3275-2

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 5, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 30 totaled 348,612, down 4.3 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 0.5 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 5.0 percent in the West and 3.6 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of coal were up 4,375 cars (3.3 percent). Grain was off by 4,805 cars (15.7 percent). Loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were down 1,994 cars (10.3 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment loadings fell 1,663 cars (7.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 39 weeks of 1989 totaled 12,979,533, down 1.1 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 126,958 trailers and/or containers for the week ended September 30, down 0.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 39 weeks of 1989 was 4,413,750 trailers and/or containers, 2.9 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended September 30 totaled 19.9 billion, 2.9 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 39 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 745.2 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,837	30,642	-15.7 %	24,522	5.4 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,963	2,202	-10.9	1,600	22.7
Metallic Ores	17,625	22,530	-21.8	19,967	-11.7
Coal	135,130	130,755	3.3	132,353	2.1
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,277	19,271	-10.3	17,580	-1.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,935	11,091	-10.4	11,866	-16.3
Grain Mill Products	10,096	10,493	-3.8	10,005	.9
Food & Kindred Products	8,750	9,265	-5.6	8,756	-.1
Primary Forest Products	9,237	9,964	-7.3	9,399	-1.7
Lumber & Wood Products	7,258	7,587	-4.3	6,731	7.8
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,317	10,925	-5.6	9,946	3.7
Chemicals	27,669	26,998	2.5	27,472	.7
Petroleum Products	5,553	5,042	10.1	5,095	9.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,178	11,600	-3.6	11,213	-.3
Coke	5,677	5,884	-3.5	5,772	-1.6
Metals & Products	9,599	10,977	-12.6	9,444	1.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,537	21,200	-7.8	19,453	.4
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,802	9,766	-9.9	8,860	-.7
All Other Carloads	7,170	7,978	-10.1	6,803	5.4
Total	348,612	364,170	-4.3 %	346,837	.5 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 39 WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	348,612	364,170	-4.3 %	12,979,533	13,125,158	-1.1 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	75,658	77,342	-2.2	2,558,487	2,587,544	-1.1
Containers	51,300	50,566	1.5	1,855,263	1,700,505	9.1
Total	126,958	127,908	-.7	4,413,750	4,288,049	2.9
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.9	20.5	-2.9 %	745.2 r	746.4 r	-.2 %

r Cumulative ton-miles revised to reflect revisions in Week 39, 1988, carloadings.

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